

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A driving method of a plasma display panel for driving gradation-wise a plasma display panel having a plurality of discharge cells each arranged in matrix and bearing a role of a pixel by constituting one field of input image signal by a plurality of sub-fields, comprising:

setting each of said discharge cells to one of a light emission cell state and a light non-emission state in accordance with respective pixel data of said input image signal in each of sub-fields; and

causing only said discharge cell under said light emission cell state to emit light a number of light emissions allotted in accordance with weighting of said sub-field, wherein adjacent ones of said plurality of discharge cells constitute a discharge cell block and each of said adjacent ones of said plurality of discharge cells is separately driven according to said respective pixel data of said input image signal, and for at least one of said subfields the number of light emissions to be allotted respectively to said discharge cells inside said discharge cell block are rendered different, and are varied for each field, and wherein for discharge cells in the discharge cell block, weighting of said sub-fields are set to satisfy a condition:

$$\text{SFa1} < \text{SFb1} < \text{SFa2} < \text{SFb2} < \dots < \text{SFan} < \text{SFbn}$$

where SFa1, SFa2 ... SFan represent weightings, in an ascending order, of said sub-fields for one discharge cell in said discharge cell block and SFb1, SFb2, ... SFbn represent

weightings, in an ascending order, of said sub-fields for another discharge cell in said discharge cell block.

2. (previously presented): The driving method of a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein said number of light emissions to be allotted respectively to said discharge cells inside said discharge cell block are varied for each field for all the subfields together constituting one field.

3. (currently amended) A driving method of a plasma display panel for driving gradation-wise a plasma display panel having a plurality of discharge cells each arranged in matrix and bearing a role of a pixel by constituting one field of input image signal by a plurality of sub-fields, wherein adjacent ones of said plurality of discharge cells constitute a discharge cell block and each of said adjacent ones of said plurality of discharge cells is separately driven according to respective pixel data of said input image signal, comprising the following steps serially conducted in each of said sub-fields:

a pixel data write step for setting each of said discharge cells to one of a light emission cell state and a light non-emission cell state in accordance with respective pixel data of said input image signal;

a first light emission sustain step for causing only said discharge cell under said light emission cell state among said discharge cells to emit light the number of light emissions corresponding to weighting of said sub-field;

a first selective erase step for compulsively bringing only said discharge cell positioned at a first position inside said discharge cell block consisting of four of said discharge cells adjacent to one another into said light non-emission cell state;

a second light emission sustain step for causing said discharge cells under said light emission cell state among said discharge cells to emit light a predetermined number of times;

a second selective erase step for compulsively bringing only said discharge cell positioned at a second position inside said discharge cell block into said light non-emission cell state;

a third light emission sustain step for causing only said discharge cells under said light emission state among said discharge cells to emit light at a predetermined number of times;

a third selective erase step for compulsively bringing only said discharge cell arranged at a third position inside said discharge cell block into said light non-emission cell state; and

a fourth light emission sustain step for causing only said discharge cells under said light emission cell state among said discharge cells to emit light a predetermined number of times,

wherein said number of light emissions to be allotted to each of said discharge cells inside said discharge cell block is varied for each field, and wherein for discharge cells in the discharge cell block, weighting of said sub-fields are set to satisfy a condition:

$SFa1 < SFb1 < SFa2 < SFb2 < \dots < SFan < SFbn$

where $SFa1, SFa2 \dots SFan$ represent weightings, in an ascending order, of said sub-fields for one discharge cell in said discharge cell block and $SFb1, SFb2, \dots SFbn$ represent weightings, in an ascending order, of said sub-fields for another discharge cell in said discharge cell block.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/883,448

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4. (canceled).